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A rotating mechanical seal with a sliding ring, characterized by the sliding ring (5) being attached by way of an O-ring (6) on a shaft (1) of a compressor and rotating with the shaft (1) and by a non-rotating backing ring (4) being provided which is attached by way of an O-ring (3) to a housing (2) of the compressor so as to be gas-tight wherein the sliding ring (5) and backing ring (4) are pressed one against another by a spring (8) to form a seal and slide one upon the other, wherein one of the rings (4,5) is made of a carbon and silicon carbide composite material and the other of a silicon carbide material.

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